AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 3-6 and 20-25. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising L-methadone and at least one additional opioid analgesic, both effecting opioid analgesia, in amounts sufficient to potentiate a synergistic antinociceptive response.

2. (Withdrawn) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein the opioid analgesic is selected from the group consisting of morphine, morphine-6-glucuronide, 6-acetylmorphine, and codeine.

3. (Currently Amended) A method of providing analgesia to a subject in need thereof comprising administering a pharmaceutical composition comprising enantiomerically pure L-methadone or a mixture of DL methadone having at least 65% L-methadone and at least one additional opioid analgesic, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is administered in an amount and a duration sufficient to potentiate an antinociceptive response.

4. (Currently Amended) A method of providing analgesia to a subject in need thereof comprising administering a pharmaceutical composition comprising enantiomerically pure L-methadone or a mixture of DL methadone having at least 65% L-methadone and administering a pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one additional opioid analgesic, wherein the pharmaceutical compositions are administered in an amount and a duration sufficient to potentiate an antinociceptive response.

5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 4, wherein enantiomerically pure L-methadone or the mixture of DL methadone having at least 65% L-methadone is administered in a dosage range from about 1 mg to about 60 mg.

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 4, wherein enantiomerically pure L-methadone or the mixture of DL methadone having at least 65% L-methadone is administered in a dosage range from about 2 mg to about 10 mg.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 4, wherein the opioid analgesic is morphine.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 7, wherein morphine is administered in a dosage range from about 0.1 mg to about 60 mg.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 7, wherein morphine is administered in a dosage range from about 1 mg to about 50 mg.

10. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 4, wherein the opioid analgesic is morphine-6- glucuronide.

11. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 10, wherein morphine-6-glucuronide is administered in a dosage range from about 1 mg to about 60 mg.

12. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 10, wherein morphine-6-glucuronide is administered in a dosage range from about 5 mg to about 15 mg.

13. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 4, wherein the opioid analgesic is codeine.

14. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 12, wherein codeine is administered in a dosage range from about 10 mg to about 500 mg.

15. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 14, wherein codeine is administered in a dosage range from about 100 to about 200 mg.

16. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 4, wherein the opioid analgesic is 6-acetylmorphine.

17. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 15, wherein 6-acetylmorphine is administered in a dosage range from 1 mg to 30 mg.

18. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 16, wherein 6-acetylmorphine is administered in a dosage range from 7 mg to 15 mg.

19. (Withdrawn) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein the

composition comprises a racemic mixture of DL methadone having at least 65% L-methadone.

20. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 3, wherein the pharmaceutical composition comprises a ~~racemic~~ mixture of DL methadone having at least 65% L-methadone.

21. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 4, wherein the pharmaceutical composition comprising L-methadone is a ~~racemic~~ mixture of DL methadone having at least 65% L-methadone.

22. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 3, wherein the pharmaceutical composition comprises a ~~racemic~~ mixture of DL methadone and the antinociceptive response is therapeutic for moderate or severe pain.

23. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 4, wherein the pharmaceutical composition comprising L-methadone is a ~~racemic~~ mixture of DL methadone and the antinociceptive response is therapeutic for moderate or severe pain.

24. (Currently Amended) A method for potentiating an antinociceptive response by providing analgesia from enantiomerically pure L-methadone or a mixture of DL methadone having at least 65% L-methadone and at least one additional opioid analgesic in a subject in need thereof, comprising administering to the subject a pharmaceutical composition comprising L-methadone and at least one additional opioid analgesic in an amount and a duration sufficient to potentiate an antinociceptive response.

25. (Currently Amended) A method for potentiating an antinociceptive response by providing analgesia from enantiomerically pure L-methadone or a mixture of DL methadone having at least 65% L-methadone and at least one additional opioid analgesic in a subject in need thereof, comprising administering to the subject a pharmaceutical composition comprising L-methadone and administering a pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one additional opioid analgesic, both in an amount and a duration sufficient to potentiate an antinociceptive response.